

REMARKS

By this amendment, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been added as the last page of the application (page no. 35). The separate page for the Abstract of the Disclosure is enclosed herewith.

An amendment to the specification is made to identify the PCT international application from which the application is derived and under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) to claim the priority of a PCT international application and a European application. Headings and subheadings as required by U.S. practice have also been added to the specification.

Claims 45-88 are currently pending. The claims have been amended in order to conform them to the U.S. practice. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.


The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 22, 2004

By: 
Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Attachments: Abstract of the Disclosure